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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER

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SPOT COMMENTARY: Poland

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Polish Internal Situation

No violence has yet been reported in Poland, despite the gathering of a large crowd at Solidarity's Warsaw headquarters for much of the day; the more serious test will occur tomorrow morning when workers return to their factories, at some of which security forces are now stationed. [REDACTED]

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Solidarity apparently is trying to function as an organization, despite the probable arrest of all its top leaders except Lech Walesa. According to unconfirmed reports, Walesa is having talks with the government's minister for union affairs. A handbill distributed by union headquarters in Warsaw--which is no longer occupied by police--calls for an immediate nationwide general strike. The Solidarity branch at the huge Ursus tractor factory, traditionally a center of labor militancy, has also reportedly passed out leaflets calling for such a strike. [REDACTED]

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Solidarity's ability to mobilize the workers probably will not be known until committees of workers can meet tomorrow morning. The regime may plan to lockout workers in order to hamstring Solidarity's efforts to organize a general strike. If the police currently deployed around the Ursus factory try to prevent the workers from entering the plant, however, a violent confrontation is likely to result. [REDACTED]

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The imposition of martial law apparently stunned much of the populace, but not sufficiently to prevent the crowd of Warsaw demonstrators from ignoring the ban on public assembly and from jeering and throwing snow balls at troops and riot police. The regime backed off from its initial attempt to break up this group, but it can not be counted on to continue to show restraint in the face of such defiance. [REDACTED]

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Soviet/Warsaw Pact Military Situation

The Soviets appear to be taking a wait and see approach to the imposition of martial law in Poland. Soviet forces in and around Poland continue to conduct routine operations [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Poland

According to an unconfirmed report [redacted] 25X1
apparently in Warsaw, Kulikov has been in Poland along with senior Warsaw
Pact military officials drawing up plans to use Polish military forces to
bring Solidarity under control. If this first step fails, the source
reports that the plans call for the use of military troops from all Warsaw
Pact countries, except East Germany. [redacted] 25X1

There is no evidence that Soviet forces are in a heightened state
of readiness or that preparations for troop movement are under way. East
German Army personnel in a military administrative district near the
Polish border may have been ordered to begin preparations for mobilization
today. There is no evidence, however, that any East German troops have
begun moving toward Poland. [redacted] 25X1

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